



NEW MANAGEMENT AT HONEY CREEK RESORT

Meeting. The [Natural Resource Commission](#) met on March 30 in Des Moines.

Contract Approved. The Commission approved a new 15-year concession agreement for management of Honey Creek Resort State Park with the [Delaware North Companies \(DNC\), Parks and Resorts, Inc.](#) The company specializes in food service, hotel management, gaming, retail operations, event planning, and venue management. The Company's operations include the [Gideon Putnam Resort and Spa](#) at Saratoga Springs State Park in New York, food and retail services at [Target Field](#) in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and [Shenandoah National Park](#) in Luray, Virginia.

Contract Provisions. There were five companies interested in the concession agreement at Honey Creek Resort State Park; however, only two companies submitted a proposal. This included the Central Group Companies, the current manager of Honey Creek Resort, and Delaware North Companies. The proposal from Delaware North included the following investments or benefits over the 15-year period:

- A capital investment of \$2.5 million for improvements at the resort. This includes an upgrade to the conference center, construction of a wedding gazebo, upgrading the gift shop and spa areas, and construction of an outdoor pool.
- A reserve fund with an estimated value of \$8.8 million that will be maintained by the Delaware North Companies. This includes a Personal Property Reserve Fund with an estimated value of \$5.8 million and a Maintenance Reserve Fund of \$3.0 million.
- A concession fee with an estimated value of \$1.1 million over 15 years. Each year, a payment will be made to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to offset operational and maintenance costs.

Additional Information. For additional information on the Honey Creek Resort State Park, visit the DNR [website](#).

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